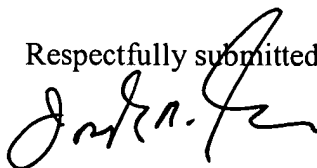


**REMARKS**

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 13-20 will be pending in this application and presented for examination. Claims 1-12 and 21-22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph R. Snyder  
Reg. No. 39,381

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 925-472-5000  
Fax: 415-576-0300  
Attachments  
JS:jc  
60110134 v1